

WATER COUNCIL MEETING

Dept. of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Dr., Concord, N.H.

October 10, 2007
9:00 a.m.

Members present: Chairman Bridges, Councilors Bradley, Butler, Christie, Cowan, Czysz, Decker, Dupee, Lussier, Rawnsley, Rastallis, and Varotsis

Members absent: Councilors Densberger, Barrett, Lyons, and Phillips

John Bridges, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2007 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilor Varotsis to accept the minutes of September 12, 2007, second by Councilor Bradley. The Council unanimously voted to approve this motion.

2. Approval of State Aid Grants

Robert Mann of the Ground Water Drinking Water Bureau requested approval of six Public Water System Interconnection Grants as set forth in a memo from Bureau Administrator Sarah Pillsbury, to Harry Stewart, P.E., Director, Water Division dated September 18, 2007.

Councilor Bradley moved to approve the grants and recommend favorable action by the Governor and Executive Council by adoption of the following resolution in its entirety. Councilor Lussier seconded the motion and it was unanimously voted.

WHEREAS, the following water systems have applied to the Department of Environmental Services, under the provision of RSA 486-A, for grants in the amount listed to aid in defraying the costs of establishing regional water systems as defined in said Chapter:

<u>GRANT RECIPIENT</u>	<u>GRANT #</u>	<u>OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
PAC Locke Lake Water System	08-0142010-01	Connections of two separate Pittsfield Aqueduct Co (PAC) water systems	\$ 89,541.00
PEU Maple Hill Acres	08-0162020-01	Connection to the Derry municipal water system	\$264,169.00
Hampstead Area Water Co.	08-1032050-01	Connection of former Kent Farm water system to Hampstead Area WC	\$166,399.00
Hampstead Area Water Co.	08-1031010-01	Connection of Hampstead Core to Brickett's Mill & Atkinson Core	\$312,840.00
Lamprey River Cooperative	08-1973020-01	Connection to the Raymond municipal water system	\$ 49,745.00
Granliden on Sunapee	08-2272010-01	Connection to the Sunapee municipal water system	\$168,000.00

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Services has examined said applications as to the eligibility of the projects for state contributions; and

WHEREAS, the Water Council finds that said water projects are consistent with establishment of a regional water system as defined in RSA 486-A;

NOW THEREFORE, the Water Council finds that all provisions of RSA 486-A have been met by said applicants, and respectfully recommends that the Governor and Executive Council approve said grants and authorize payments thereof through the Department of Environmental Services, as provided for in said Chapter.

3. Rules

Robert Estabrook, Chief Aquatic Biologist in the Watershed Bureau, reviewed the Surface Water Quality Regulations Env-Wq 1700. These rules expire in December. This is a re-adoption of existing rules with no substantial changes mainly updates and clarification of language.

Councilor Varotsis made a motion to vote on the adoption of Env- Wq 1700 in one month. Councilor Butler seconded the motion. The Council unanimously voted in favor of this motion.

4. Status of Appeals

Chairman Bridges introduced Amy Samson, the new Appeal Clerk for the Council.

- **Docket No. 05-21 WC - Save Our Groundwater Appeal**

September 20, 2007 Attorney Backus submitted a Motion for Rehearing on behalf of the Appellant.

Councilor Varotsis made a motion to Table this Appeal until November when the attorney general's office can be here to make a recommendation on the issue of standing. Councilor Cowan seconded the motion. The Council unanimously voted in favor of this motion.

- **Docket No. 07-21 WC – Tuftonboro Conservation Commission**

Councilor Lussier made a motion to table the decision until next month when the attorney general's office can be here to make a recommendation on the issue of standing. Councilor Varotsis seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to approve this motion.

- **Docket No. 07-19 WC – Presby Environmental, Inc.**

On September 28, 2007 Attorney Rayment, representing Presby Environmental, Inc. submitted an Assented-to-Motion to Extend Deadline to Respond to Motion to Dismiss from October 3, 2007 to October 12, 2007. Chairman Bridges granted the Assented-to-Motion to Extend Deadline. No action needed as all parties agreed.

It was asked that on the agenda in the future, under Status of Appeals - "Action Items" be added that list the appeals requiring action at the coming meeting.

5. City of Concord: Presentation on Wastewater Treatment Plant

Phil Bilodeau, Deputy Director of General Services for the City of Concord, gave a presentation on the wastewater treatment plant in Concord.

6. Legislative Update: Harry Stewart

Director Stewart reported it is anticipated there will be legislation that will enable storm water utilities to be created across the state. The Water Resources Study Committee will take up the storm water issue from the water quality perspective. This will be for 2009 legislation

The Wetlands Bureau LBA Audit had 9 or 10 findings that will require legislative action.

The Department and the Wetlands Council have begun a Wetlands Program Improvement Initiative to receive comments and improve the Wetlands permitting process.

There will be a presentation on the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act to the Council in November. Draft rules will be also presented as they must be adopted in 2008.

5. Other Business

Director Stewart reported that John Bush, Administrator of the Wastewater Engineering Bureau retired last month. Paul Heitzler has been hired for this position and will begin October 12, 2007.

A sample letter was distributed to the Council that has gone out to communities announcing a series of seminars that DES is putting on for local officials focused on the communities with stressed wastewater treatment plants. They will be held in Littleton, Concord, and Keene, on November 5, 8, and 14th respectively. The Water Council is welcome to any of these.

Councilor Butler noted a one-day seminar will be held in December in Concord to address issues that wastewater treatment facilities are facing daily. Councilor Butler asked for support for these outreach programs and the one-day seminar. He asked that Chairman Bridges call Commissioner Burack to say that the Water Council will be a co-sponsor of these.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2007.

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilor Varotsis at 10:25 to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilor Butler and unanimously voted.